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Crime prevention and criminal justice

International drug control

Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 2011/31 of 28 July 2011, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism,

Stressing again the need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to effectively prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of States through the provision of technical assistance, based on the needs and priorities identified by requesting States,

Recalling its resolution 65/232 of 21 December 2010, in which it, inter alia, reiterated its request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism,

Recalling also its resolution 64/297 of 8 September 2010, in which it reaffirmed the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[1] and underlined

[1] General Assembly resolution 60/288.

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the importance of greater cooperation among United Nations entities and of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system, as well as the need to continue to promote transparency and to avoid duplication,

Recalling further the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, adopted by the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[2]

Reiterating all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the need for States to continue to implement it,

Reaffirming its resolution 65/221 of 21 December 2010,

Reaffirming also its resolution 65/232 of 21 December 2010, in which it, inter alia, expressed deep concern about the connections, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism and emphasized the need to enhance cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen responses to that evolving challenge,

Reiterating that it is the primary responsibility of Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and recognizing the need to enhance the important role the United Nations plays, in coordination with other international, regional and subregional organizations, in facilitating coherence in the implementation of the Strategy at the national, regional and global levels and in providing assistance, especially in the area of capacity-building,

Taking note of the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation and the Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, both adopted on 10 September 2010,[3]

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the existing international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in close coordination with the relevant entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States for the ratification and legislative incorporation of those international legal instruments;

2. *Urges* Member States to continue to strengthen international coordination and cooperation in order to prevent and combat terrorism in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and, when appropriate, by entering into bilateral and multilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation, and requests the United

[2] General Assembly resolution 65/230, annex.

[3] The International Conference on Air Law adopted the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation by a vote of 55 in favour and 14 not in favour. The Conference adopted the Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft by a vote of 57 in favour and 13 not in favour.

Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to provide technical assistance to Member States to that end, including by continuing and enhancing its assistance related to international legal cooperation pertaining to terrorism;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the development and maintenance of fair and effective criminal justice systems, in accordance with applicable international law, as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to develop specialized legal knowledge in the area of counter-terrorism and pertinent thematic areas of relevance to the mandate of the Office and to provide assistance to requesting Member States with regard to criminal justice responses to terrorism, including, where appropriate, nuclear terrorism, the financing of terrorism and the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, as well as assistance to and support for victims of terrorism;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to develop its technical assistance programmes, in consultation with Member States, to assist them in ratifying and implementing the international legal instruments related to terrorism;

6. *Also calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance for building the capacity of Member States to ratify and implement the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice officials, upon request, the development of and participation in relevant initiatives and the elaboration of technical tools and publications;

7. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to strengthen its cooperation with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and subregional organizations and arrangements, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to give high priority to the implementation of an integrated approach through the promotion of its regional and thematic programmes;

9. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate and to address, as appropriate, including through the effective exchange of information and sharing of experiences, connections between terrorism and related criminal activities in order to enhance criminal justice responses to terrorism, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support the efforts of Member States in this regard, upon request;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites Member States to consider making additional voluntary financial contributions, as well as

providing in kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources to carry out activities, within its mandate, to assist Member States, upon request, in the implementation of the relevant elements of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.